Application No.: 09/880,191 4 Docket No.: 09648/000L349-US0

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device <u>used</u> for connecting <u>mounting portions on</u>

each end portion of a first member and a second member to be relatively opened and closed by

being nonrotatably inserted into mounting holes of said mounting portions, rotating relatively to

each other, comprising:

a case body having a closure plate with a bearing hole on one end portion, an open end

portion on another end portion, and a with baffle means on the circumference of said case body, said

case body is nonrotatably inserted into mounting hole of either one of said members from the side of

said closure plate; mounted in one of the two members;

a fixed cam nonrotatably inserted on the side of said closure plate provided inside said case

body, and having a through hole on the central portion in the axial direction and a first cam portion

on one end portion;

a shaft arrested by said case body, passing through said through hole of said fixed cam and

said bearing hole of said closure plate, with one end portion thereof arrested outside of said closure

plate and penetrating through along an axial direction of said fixed cam and said case body in the

central along an axial direction thereof, and with another end portion protruded from the side of said

open end portion of said case body;

an arresting body mounted on the side protruding from said open end portion of said case

body and engaged through said mounting hole of said mounting portion of either one of said

Docket No.: 09648/000L349-US0

Application No.: 09/880,191

5

members, with a rib portion mounted in circumferential axial direction; disposed in the other end of said shaft and attached to the other one of the members;

a rib portion formed along an axial direction of said arresting body and rotating with one of the two members;

a cam slider slidably and nonrotatably mounted on said shaft, said cam slider having a second cam portion on the side confronting to said first cam portion; disposed to face said fixed cam and to slide in an axial direction of said shaft with the rotation thereof being arrested by said shaft; and

a compression spring interposed resiliently between said cam slider and said arresting body; and

a slider washer provided on a portion of said shaft engaging with said closure plate of said case body.

8. (Original) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 7, wherein:

said fixed cam is constituted independently of said case body and accommodated in said case body with the rotation thereof arrested by said case body.

9. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 8, further comprising:

a <u>first</u> cam portion disposed in said fixed cam, being composed of a concave portion, a first inclined portion forming the concave portion and having a large steep slope surface, a long gentle inclined plane portion provided adjacent to the first inclined portion, and a second inclined portion

Application No.: 09/880,191 6 Docket No.: 09648/000L349-US0

provided adjacent to the inclined plane portion forming the concave portion and having another small and steep slope surface, and

a convex portion on <u>said second cam portion of</u> said cam slider contacting the <u>said first</u> cam portion by pressure, <u>dropping drops</u> inside the first inclined portion of said <u>fixed first</u> cam <u>portion</u> when the first member and the second member are in a closed state, and by opening both of the first member and the second member relatively to each other, <u>said the</u> convex portion <u>escaping escapes</u> from the first inclined portion of the concave portion to move down along the gently inclined plane portion, and when <u>they said first member and second member</u> are opened at an angle close to the maximum opening angle, <u>said convex portion dropping</u> it <u>drops</u> inside the concave potion from the second inclined portion.

10. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device, according to claim 9, wherein:

the convex portion of <u>said second cam portion of</u> said cam slider drops in the first inclined portion just before the first member and the second member are closed relatively to each other.

11. (Original) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 10, wherein:

the first member and the second member are a transmitting section and a receiver section of a portable telephone respectively.

12. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device for connecting used for connecting mounting portions on each of end portions of a first member and a second member to be relatively

Application No.: 09/880,191 7 Docket No.: 09648/000L349-US0

opened and closed by being nonrotatably inserted into mounting holes of said mounting portions, rotating relatively to each other, comprising:

a case body having a closure plate with a bearing hole on one end portion, an open end portion on another end portion, and a with baffle means on the circumference of said case body, said case body is nonrotatably inserted into mounting hole of either one of said members from the side of said closure plate; mounted in one of the two members;

a fixed cam <u>nonrotatably inserted on the side of said closure plate provided</u> inside said case body, and having a through hole on the central portion in the axial direction and a first cam portion on one end portion;

a shaft arrested by said case body, passing through said through hole of said fixed cam and said bearing hole mounted on said closure plate, with one end portion thereof arrested outside of said closure plate by E-ring and penetrating through along an axial direction of said fixed cam and said case body in the central along an axial direction thereof, and with another end portion protruded from the side of said open end portion of said case body;

an arresting body mounted on the side protruding from said open end portion of said shaft and engaged through said mounting hole of said mounting portion of either one of said members, with a rib portion mounted in circumferential axial direction; disposed in the other end of said shaft and attached to the other one of the members;

a rib portion formed along an axial direction of said arresting body and rotating with one of the two members;

Docket No.: 09648/000L349-US0

Application No.: 09/880,191

8

a cam slider slidably and nonrotatably mounted on said shaft, said cam slider having a second cam portion on the side confronting to said first cam portion; disposed to face said fixed cam and to slide in an axial direction of said shaft with the rotation thereof being arrested by said shaft;

a compression spring interposed resiliently between said cam slider and said arresting body; and

a slider washer provided on a portion of the shaft by inserting between said E-ring fixed said shaft and said closure plate of engaging with the said case body.

13. (Previously Amended) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 12, wherein:

said fixed cam is constituted independently of said case body and accommodated in said case body with the rotation thereof arrested by said case body.

14. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 13, further comprising:

a <u>said first</u> cam portion disposed in said fixed cam, being composed of a concave portion, a first inclined portion forming the concave portion and having a large and steep slope surface, a long and gentle inclined plane portion provided adjacent to the first inclined portion, and a second inclined portion provided adjacent to the inclined plane portion forming the concave potion and having another small and steep slope surface, and

a convex potion on <u>said second cam portion of</u> said cam slider contacting the <u>said first</u> cam portion by pressure, <u>drops</u> <u>dropping</u> inside the first inclined portion of said <u>first</u> <u>fixed</u> cam <u>portion</u> when the first member and the second member are in a closed state, and by opening both of the first member and the second member are in a closed state, and by opening both of the first member and

Application No.: 09/880,191 9 Docket No.: 09648/000L349-US0

the second member relatively to each other, <u>said</u> the convex portion <u>escaping</u> escapes from the first inclined portion of the concave potion to move down along the gently inclined plane portion, and when they <u>said</u> first member and <u>second</u> member are opened at an angle close to the maximum opening angle, <u>said</u> convex portion dropping it drops inside the concave portion from the second inclined portion.

15. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device, according to claim 14, wherein:

the convex portion of <u>said second cam portion of</u> said cam slider drops in the first inclined portion just before the first member and the second member are closed relatively to each other.

16. (Original) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 15, wherein:

the first member and the second member are a transmitting section and a receiver section of a portable telephone respectively.